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## Assembly Democrats Call on Governor Walker to Reinstate School Safety Policy He Eliminated

Democratic Bill would let local schools districts build safer communities

MADISON –Today, Assembly Democratic Leader Representative Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh) and Representative Sondy Pope (D-Mt. Horeb) urged the Governor to consider taking up <u>SB</u> <u>858</u>, authored by Rep. Pope which would give school districts the option to raise revenue limits to address urgent security and safety issues. Governor Walker repealed this measure, which was previously law in Wisconsin, in 2011.

"Granting flexibility for districts to work in partnership with local law enforcement agencies will help build and maintain safe and secure learning environments for Wisconsin's current and future students," Rep. Pope stated. "If Governor Walker is serious about school safety, he could encourage legislative Republicans to pass this important law they repealed six years ago."

Assembly Republicans <u>rejected this bill</u> on a party-line vote on February 22nd. Until now, Gov. Walker has rejected any and all common sense gun safety measures. This despite the fact that 133 shootings have occurred in the United States at schools, colleges, universities, or technical colleges, including 2 in Wisconsin since Governor Walker took office in 2011.

"It took the Governor 2,613 days to even hint at taking action to keep Wisconsinites safe from gun violence. While it's a step forward that he's joined the conversation, actions speak louder than words," said Rep. Hintz. "We are talking about the safety of our children. Anything this important should be a bi-partisan effort with input from school officials, law enforcement, and local leaders. Wisconsin Democrats are ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work. SB 858 should serve as a starting point to make our schools safer immediately."